

**FPLS RELEASE 02-01 FCR FOCUS GROUP  
DECEMBER 13, 2001, MEETING and  
DECEMBER 20, 2001, MEETING  
TELECONFERENCE SUMMARY**

**A. GENERAL**

The FCR Focus Group held two teleconferences, on December 13, 2001, and on December 20, 2001, to review manifest items that are scheduled for release in May 2002.

Nancy Sheain, one of Lockheed Martin's Development Managers, reminded the group that the items under consideration did not include all of the scheduled changes, but were the ones that needed additional State input. She also reminded the group that the documents reviewed were drafts and not the final specifications. They were disseminated for discussion purposes only.

The following meeting summary highlights the points covered, the material discussed, and the decisions that were made at the meeting. Materials for the meetings were provided beforehand. The discussion points included in this summary do not repeat the understanding obtained from the materials.

**B. PARTICIPANTS**

Representatives from OCSE Management, LM Development Staff, TRW Technical Support, SSA, and representatives from New Hampshire, Virginia, Arizona, Iowa, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Washington and Illinois.

**C. PROPOSED SYSTEM CHANGES**

**1. CCN 1338 – Provide a Complete Employer Data Indicator**

**a. Discussion**

- Withholding can be more automated by identifying the records with all of the needed employer data.
- The employer field sometimes contains a service provider rather than an employer.
- FEIN might not be correct, but it will contain all valid numerics.
- The indicator would not undo the suppression of Proactive Match Records that fail the edits. (Suppression of Proactive Match Records that fail the address edits will continue, but this issue will be reviewed further.)
- Many State systems are programmed to deal only with complete addresses, so perhaps we should suppress. Some States do load incomplete addresses now.
- Many States already have features in their State systems that address this need.

- Even if employer addresses are incomplete or missing, it would be helpful to include the employer name with the FEIN in order to give the States something they can use to find an address.

**b. Decisions**

- This change request was identified as a low priority.
- This change request was classified as a no State impact item because it will utilize filler to accommodate this new field.
- Due to the fact that this change request is a No State Impact item and is a low priority, it will not be included in the May 2002 release.
- If this change is to be implemented, a Flash Bulletin will be issued describing the change. In addition, to help the States document and monitor this change, it will be described in the next formal Release documentation after it is implemented.
- The indicator will have three possible codes:
  - C – Complete and scrubbed address.
  - I – One or more of the five elements missing.
  - X – All elements are present, but the address could not be scrubbed.  
(Although ‘S’ was initially suggested for this value, after the meeting, the development team chose to utilize the value of ‘X’ instead.)

**2. CCN 1282 - Return Participant Type in the FCR-to-NDNH Response Record**

**a. Discussion**

There were no comments on this item.

**b. Decisions**

This is a no State impact item that is planned for a mid-March implementation. At that time a Flash Bulletin will be issued describing the change. In addition, to help States document and monitor this change, it will also be described in the May Release documentation.

**3. CCN 1255 – Consistency Edit Between Date of Birth and Participant Type**

**a. Discussion**

It was agreed that no additional warning code would be necessary if the FCR can send the file mentioned in CCN 1357, which fulfills this need and more.

**b. Decisions**

This CCN will be rescinded since CCN 1357 (see below) will take care of this need

**4. CCN 1357 – Create a Data Inconsistency File**

**a. Discussion**

See decisions below.

**b. Decisions**

- The threshold for an adult is over ten years old.
- The file will consist of records that have one or more of the five relational inconsistencies.
- The sixth item (DOB unknown on IV-D case) will be dropped.
- The file should be handled like the Reconciliation File.
- A quarterly file is indicated.
- No warning codes will be associated with the records.
- The file will require a new CONNECT:Direct process.
- This is classified as a Minor Release item and will be included in the May 2002 Release.

**c. Action Items**

Pat Snodgrass will provide a list of alert/warning messages that relate to the conditions that might be included in such a file.

**5. CCN 1180 – Store Default Values in the NDNH**

**a. Discussion**

There are times when data elements on the NDNH are stored in a format that is inconsistent with a State's field type. If States receive such data, the State's production environment may be subject to abnormal terminations. The discussion revolved around the trade-off of storing exactly what was submitted versus storing and returning an adjusted value. The suggestion was made that under conditions mentioned above, the NDNH should default the values in these fields to either spaces or zeros as appropriate. The States pointed out that, rather than rejecting an NDNH record that contains invalid data, they would still prefer the record to be stored because partial and erroneous data is better than no data.

**b. Decisions**

- This proposed change would not require the States to make any programming changes; therefore, it will not be part of a formal State Release but will be implemented as part of OCSE's routine system maintenance.
- Defaults of zeros in numeric fields and spaces in alphanumeric fields are preferred.
- The default for date fields will be spaces.
- Foreign addresses should continue to remain untouched.

## **6. CCN 1356 – Reject Duplicate Locate Requests**

### **a. Discussion**

Pat Snodgrass clarified the fact that requests from different counties in the same State and from different users in the same county would not be considered duplicates, so it was agreed that a new reject code and a warning code should be set up for duplicates. The FCR will accept and send on for regular processing those requests for sources other than the duplicate sources. Under some circumstances, the FPLS rejects locates currently, so the States are familiar with it.

### **b. Decisions**

- States are agreeable to this change as described in the proposed May Release Manifest.
- This is classified as a Minor Release item and will be included in the May 2002 Release.

## **7. CCN 1331 – Provide a Closed Account Indicator for MSFIDM Matches**

### **a. Discussion**

There is outreach to the Financial Institution to populate the field. There were no comments on this.

### **b. Decisions**

This is classified as a Minor Release item and will be included in the May 2002 Release.

## **8. CCN 370 – Make SVES Available As a Locate Source**

### **a. Discussion**

The development team explained SVES responses would not be bundled with other Locate Responses. The response records will be sorted and merged with the other response records. AWR responses will continue to be bundled as they currently are. New Hampshire and Virginia now receive SVES through their IV-A agency.

### **b. Decisions**

To see the Questions and Answers for some specific fields on the SVES Record Layouts, refer to Attachment - A, "SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting" contained in these notes.

### **c. Action Items**

- Lockheed Martin will check to see how SVES will react to aliases and multiple SSNs and whether the FCR can handle the responses.
- Those States that did not review the record layouts will send comments to the T/S team.
- Lockheed Martin will research whether the DOD on the Title II Locate Response Record is the same as SSA's DOD. John Bauer will confirm.
- Lockheed Martin will get the Data Dictionary from SSA.
- Lockheed Martin will find out about the Railroad Retirement and disability claim and the Title II monthly benefits – last eight months.
- Lockheed Martin will research the order received.
- Lockheed Martin will research the SSA district office code that appears on the record.
- Iowa will check to see whether States want additional fields from SVES (e.g., Other Name).
- Other questions for SSA (See also Attachment – A, “SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting” below:
  - Will self-employment income be on the Locate Record?
  - What if the Date of Death conflicts with the Death Master File?
  - What is Essential Person?
  - INP & RPD – is check being held?
- The States will send follow-up questions for discussion at a future meeting by close of business, December 14, 2001.

#### **D. NEXT STEPS**

1. There will be a follow-up meeting next Thursday, 12/20/01.
2. Action Items must be completed by those assigned.
3. The States will email follow-up questions on the SVES Locate Response Records.

#### **E. FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF 12/20/01**

1. A follow-up meeting was held to respond to specific questions that pertained to some of the SVES data elements.
2. Attachment A, “SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting”, is a chart of the specific questions and answers that were discussed during the follow-up meeting.
3. The far left column, “Record Layout Chart ID”, of the Attachment A chart refers to Appendix-A, “Response Record Layouts”, Chart A-1 through Chart A-4 of the FCR Release 02-01 Minor Specifications posted on the OCSE Website.
4. Please note that the words in *italics* were added after the meeting by SSA to clarify some of the answers.

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
All	N/A	N/A	<p>It was mentioned during the conference call that an updated copy of the Data Dictionary is needed. There are several references throughout the SVES documentation to the Data Dictionary. In these situations, no other field information is provided so States are unable to determine what, if any, use they will be able to make of these fields until there is more information about them.</p> <p>In a previous discussion States were led to believe that they would continue getting the SSA E01 data in addition to the new records. States want to receive the new data and the old E01 data. Will they?</p>	<p>A data dictionary for SVES elements will be provided.</p> <p>SVES States can also specify the continued receipt of AWR information.</p>
All	N/A	N/A	Are all of these records both Locate Request Responses and Proactive Match Response Records? If so, will States receive the CHART A-4, "SVES Not Found Response Record", on anyone who was not found in a proactive match?	SVES is available only as a Locate Request and is not searched for proactive matches.
All	N/A	N/A	Need self-employment or any income or asset information to be available from the SSA Database.	This will be reviewed to determine whether it can be added in the future.

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
All	N/A	N/A	Need to be able to submit multiple aliases and SSNs to the FCR for matching purposes.	The FCR submits verified multiple SSNs on the FCR Database that are associated with the SSN on a Locate Request. States can submit individual requests using their set of multiple aliases and SSNs, all of which are subject to verification.
All	N/A	N/A	Does Title II include State, county and Federal retirement, or is it just Federal retirement?	Title II includes Federal payments for Social Security. It does not include State, county, and Federal pensions.
Chart A-2	Race Code	101	What is the difference between N and B? Is this something we need to distinguish when keeping track of demographic information?	There is no difference. <i>(This is not a required data element.)</i>
Chart A-2	Title XVI Date of Death	110-117	Is this a duplication of the death match process that was just implemented?	The death match uses a file that NTIS purchases from SSA. Verification is not a factor on that file. On the other hand, the date on this Title XVI response record is considered verified when the Date of Death Source Code is 1 through 6.
Chart A-2	Date of Death Source Code	118	Does the new SSA death information (from the November Release) come from all of the sources shown for this field? This was mentioned in the call and States were not certain if the information was the same or not.	The SSA death information (from the November 2001 Release) comes from all of the sources in this field and more. This field is not associated with

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
				that death file. It exists only in the Title XVI record and will contain a “verified” code only when the recipient is receiving Title XVI payments.
Chart A-2	Payee State of Jurisdiction and	387-388	When and why would another State and county have jurisdiction?	A person can live in one State and receive benefits from another State ( <i>e.g., be a resident in one State and institutionalized in a different State</i> ).
	Payee County of Jurisdiction	389-391	Instead of the State and county code, is it possible to get the address for the other locality?	That information is not available.
Chart A-2	Payee District Office Code	392-394	Is it possible to get the District Office address on SVES?	That information is not available on SVES.
Chart A-2	Type of Payee Code	395-397	Can you define “Essential Person”?	An “essential person” is a person that is necessary for the care of a recipient and whose presence is necessary for the recipient to live at home.
			What is the difference between spaces and "SEL"?	Spaces are used when the recipient gets the check. There may still be a few records with “SEL”, which means the same thing.
Chart A-2	Payee Mailing Address	398-517	Why are 6 lines of address being offered when other programs allow for only 4?	If a Representative Payee is involved, both the payee’s name



SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
				and address and recipient information are included in the address field, which then might require the additional lines. <b>(Record layout has been changed since the meeting.)</b>
Chart A-2	Record Establishment Date	553-560	The field comment says, "If applicable, this field will contain the date the SSI record was established for the recipient". When would this field not be "applicable"? Can there be a Title XVI recipient for whom States would receive information yet no SSI record has been established?	This field should always have a value. The words, "If applicable", will be removed from the specification.
Chart A-2	Date of Title XVI Eligibility	561-566	Is this the date they start receiving?  The field comment says, "If applicable, this field will contain the application date, final onset date or date the recipient attained the age of 65 years, whichever is later." When would this field not be "applicable"?  What is meant by "final onset date"?	This is the date the payee was found to be eligible. The first payment is retroactive to this date.  It can be spaces if the person was denied or the claim is pending.  The final onset date is the date to start the payment in Disability cases. <i>(It is the date SSA determined the individual to be disabled.)</i>

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
Chart A-2	Title XVI Appeal Code	567	How does the appeal level affect us?  If the benefits are modified as a result of the appeal, will the States receive a new Title XVI Record?	Appeal Code has virtually no impact on child support. It might only be helpful if the recipient is being paid above the level of eligibility pending the appeal.  No.
Chart A-2	Title XVI Denial Date	584-591	Does this denial date indicate that the individual is not getting benefits?  If so, why would a State receive this record? Does SVES match against everyone who has ever received benefits, those who qualify for benefits, and those who are receiving benefits, or just those currently receiving benefits? I was under the impression that a State would only receive this record if an individual is currently receiving benefits.	This date means that the applicant was denied immediately and is not receiving benefits.  The FPLS gets a record whenever Title XVI has a record, regardless of the eligibility or payment status.
Chart A-2	Current Payment Status Code and  Payment Status Code	592-594  595-597	What is the difference between these two fields? States can't tell because of the lack of detail provided in the field comments and the lack of a Data Dictionary definition. Is Payment Status Date the only thing that indicates the date a person starts getting SSI? Since the Payment Status Code appears to contain two different pieces of information (the first position represents SSI status, and positions 558-559 represent the reason for the status code),	Current Payment Status Code is the present status ( <i>current calendar month</i> ).  Payment Status Code is the code for the payment that is calculated six weeks into the future. ( <i>Payment Status Code reflects the payment and the reason for</i>

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
			would it be less confusing to simply break this field down into two separate fields?	<i>the status of the payment that is calculated six weeks into the future.)</i>
Chart A-2	Representative Payee Indicator	616	What is a Representative Payee?	Representative Payee is the person <i>or organization</i> receiving the SSI payment on behalf of the recipient. Their name appears in the first line of the address.
Chart A-2	Custody Code	617-619	Since this field is supposed to be describing who has physical custody, why do codes CHD, ESP and RPD describe the payee?	This field describes the person or institution with custody of the recipient.
Chart A-2	Unearned Income - Number of Entries	626	What is the intended purpose of this field? Won't we get all of the occurrences of Unearned Income data without having a field that says how many there are?	This is the counter for the number of unearned income types for the payee.
Chart A-2	State Supplement Amount	This field has been removed from the specs based upon discussions pertaining to this field's usefulness.	Is this considered a payment like SSI that is not counted in child support calculations?	State Supplement Amount is the difference between the "old" Supplementation Amount and the Federal SSI amount if the Federal SSI amount was less. Many States make these payments directly, but 16 States have their payments made through SSA. They are: CA, DE, DC, HI, IA, MA, MI, MT, NV, NJ, NY, PA, RI, UT, VT and WA. NOTE: The Technical Support

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
				Team will research whether this is used in child support calculations and will notify the States of the results.
Chart A-3	N/A	N/A	Is the prison data only for Federal prisons or for all prisons? What is the source of the prisoner data? What information does SSA have, where does it come from, and for what purpose?	This is information from all prisons that take part in the bounty program. State, Federal, and Local jails and prisons are offered incentives to report prisoners through a bounty paid by SSA. Federal prisons will be included by the time SVES becomes an active Locate source.
Chart A-3	SSN Reported by Prison	64-72	Since a prerequisite of matching participants with the SSA records is a verified SSN, will this SSN always equal the State-submitted SSN or could this be an alias? We have discovered that our participants are using false SSNs through multiple SSN matches with our State Department of Corrections, and I am wondering if the SSN in this field may end up being different than the submitted SSN. If so, is the prison giving us the SSN the inmate most commonly uses?	This is the SSN reported by the Prison. It is verified by SSA and used on the FCR match.

SVES Data Elements Questions and Answers from 12/20/01 Meeting				
Record Layout Chart Id	Data Element	Position	Question	Answer
Chart A-3	Submitted First Name, Submitted Middle Initial, Submitted Last Name	274-305	The field comments say "SVES submitted" name. Where are these values derived?	This is the name that the State provides on its FCR Locate Request. This has been changed to read "Submitted Name".
Chart A-3	Date of Confinement	397-404	The field comments indicate that a date will be sent if applicable. When would this field not be applicable (contain spaces)?	This field always has a value. The words, "If applicable", have been deleted from the specification.
Chart A-4	Submitted First Name, Submitted Middle Initial, Submitted Last Name	274-305	The field comments say "SVES submitted" name. Where are these values derived?	This is the name the State provides on its FCR Locate Request. This has been changed to read "Submitted Name".
Chart A-4	Locate Response Code	375-376	Is it safe to assume that if a State receives one of the other records (CHART A-1, A-2, or A-3) that there is no FVI or on the individual? In other words, can we code our programs to remove FVI from case participants if that participant receives a CHART A-1, CHART A-2, or CHART A-3 record?	There is no response for a person with an FV indicator on the FCR. If the indicator exists when the Locate Request is received, the request is rejected.